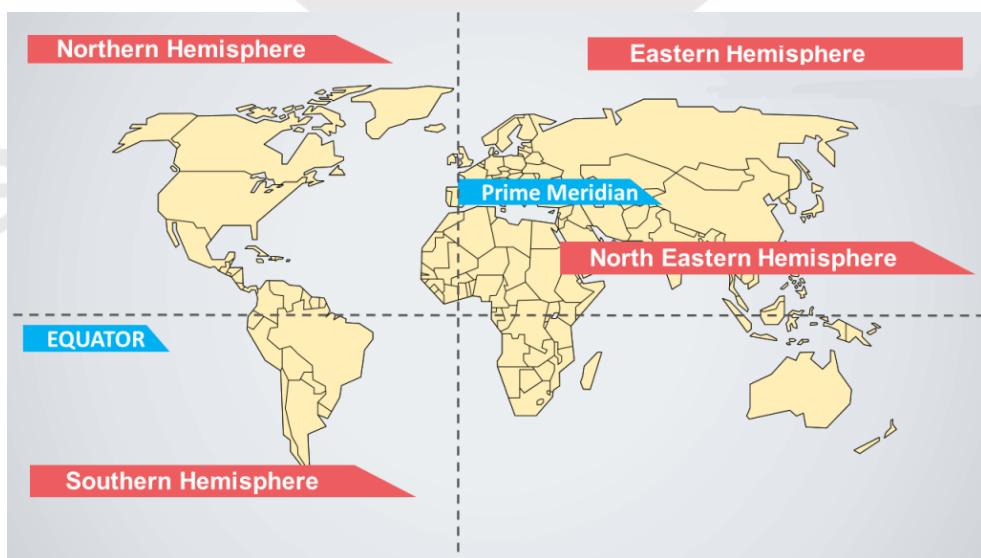


India: Geographical Extent & Frontiers



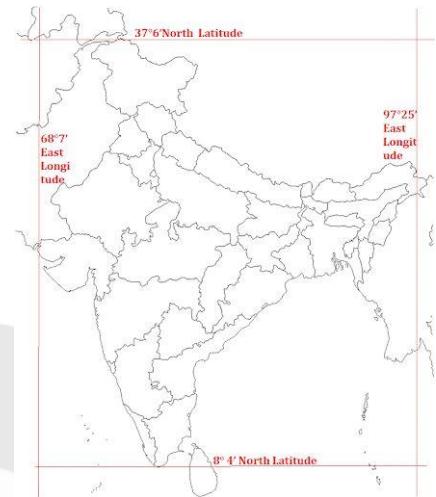
East-West Extent of Main Land India
(Including Pak occupied Kashmir-POK):

68° 7' east to 97° 25' east longitude

South-North Extent of Main Land India:

8° 4' north to 37° 6' north latitude

- It is bound by-
- The lofty Himalayas in the North;
- The Arabian Sea in the West;
- The Bay of Bengal in the East; and
- The Indian Ocean in the South



AN OVERVIEW

North to South : 3,214 Kms.
&

East to West : 2,933 Kms.

Land Frontier : 15,200 Kms.

&
Arabian Sea

Coast-line : 7,517 Kms.

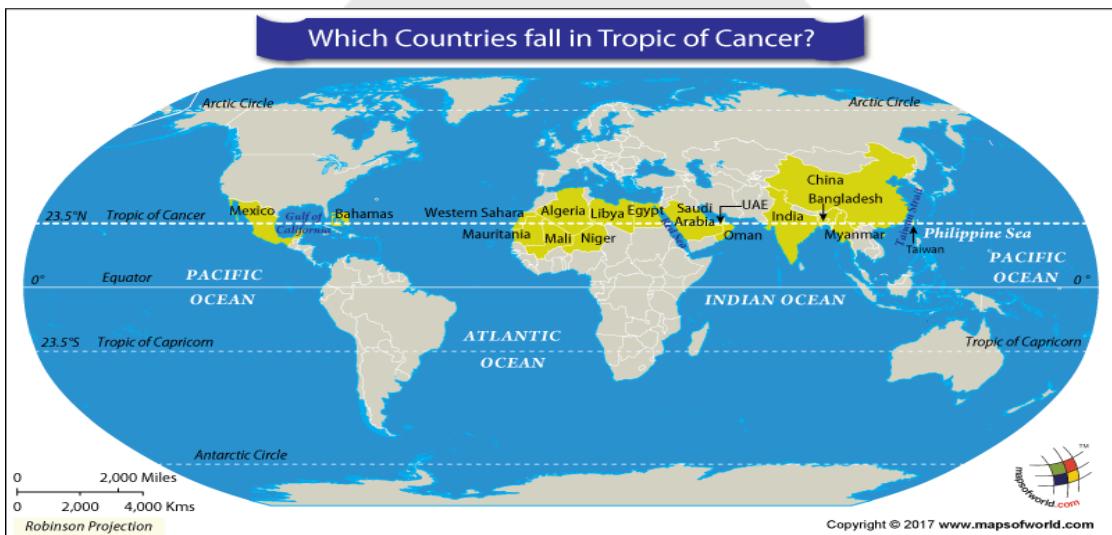
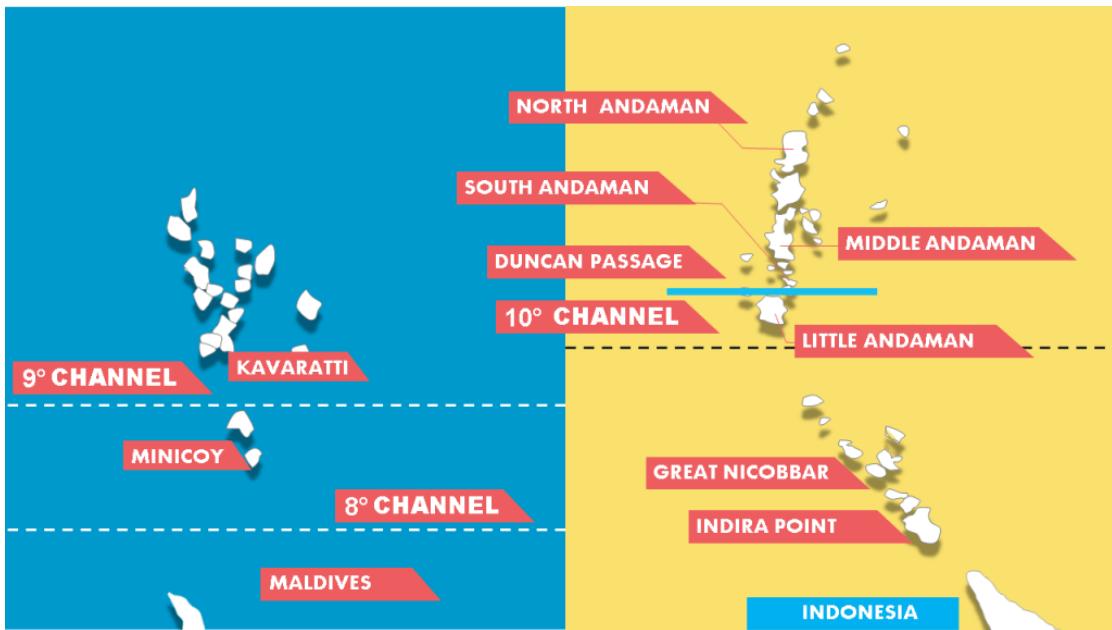
Laccadive Sea

Bay of Bengal

INDIAN OCEAN

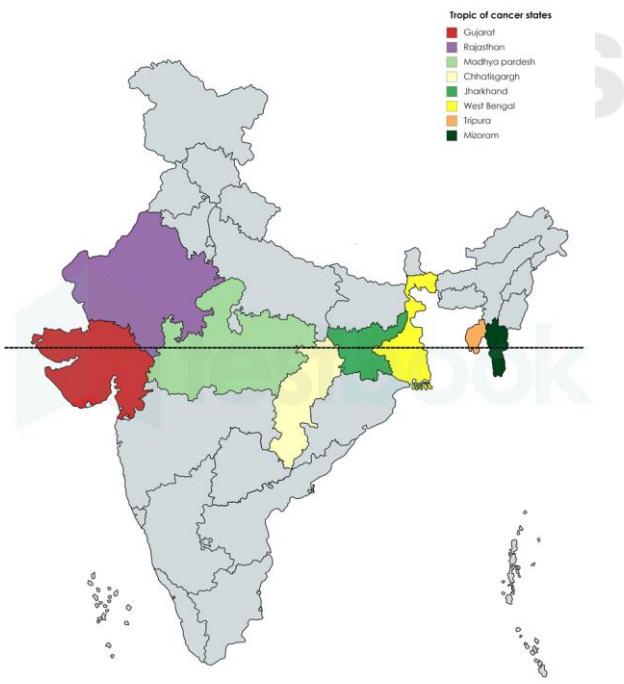
- North-south extent from Indira Col in Kashmir to Kanniyakumari is 3,214 km.
- East-west width from the Rann of Kachachh to Arunachal Pradesh is 2,933 km.
- With an area of 32,87,263 sq km, India is the seventh largest country of the world.
- India accounts for about 2.4 per cent of the total surface area of the world.



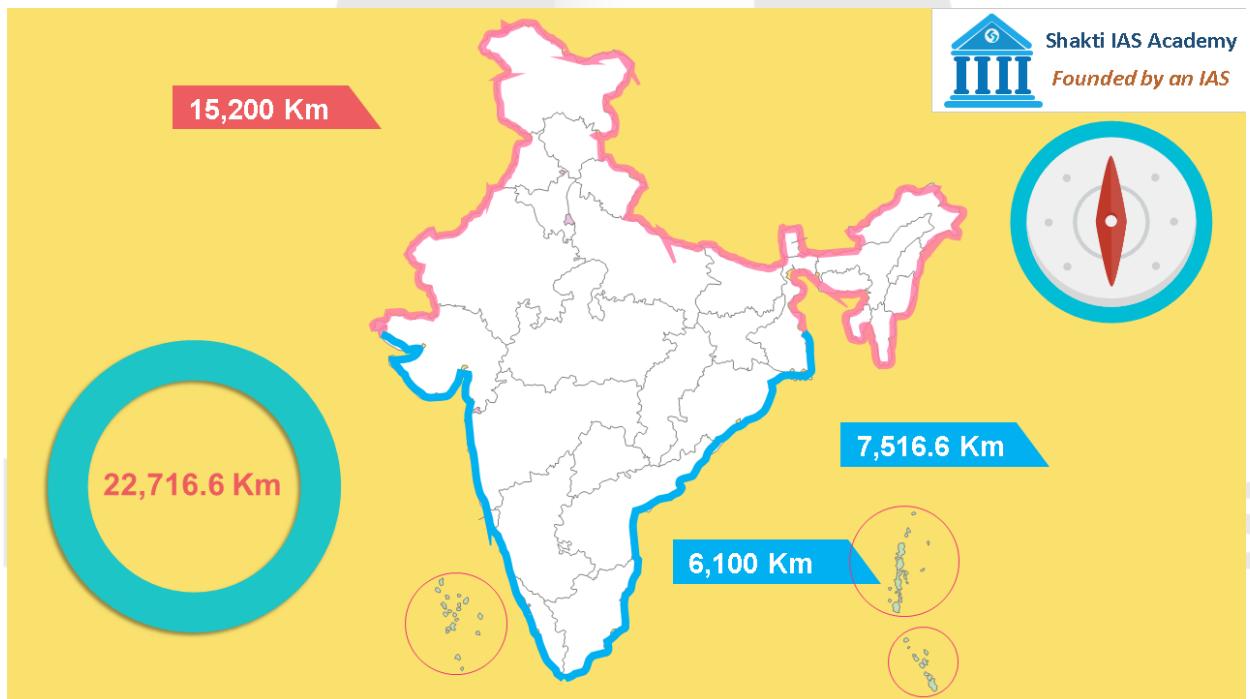
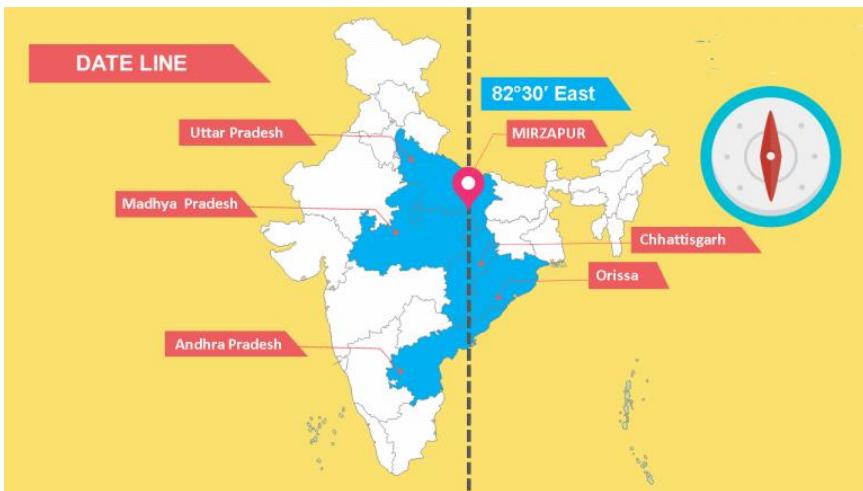


Parcham

- The Tropic of Cancer passes through eight states in India: Gujarat (Jasdan), Rajasthan (Kalinjarh), Madhya Pradesh (Shajapur), Chhattisgarh (Sonhat), Jharkhand (Lohardaga), West-Bengal (Krishnanagar), Tripura (Udaipur) and Mizoram (Champhai).



- From Gujarat to Arunachal Pradesh, there is a time lag of two hours.
- Hence, time along the Standard Meridian of India ($82^{\circ}30' E$) passing through Mirzapur (in Uttar Pradesh) is taken as the standard time for the whole country.



Eastern Coastal Plains of India

- The eastern coastal plains stretch from West Bengal in the north to Tamil Nadu in the south and pass through Andhra Pradesh and Odisha. Deltas of the rivers Mahanadi, Krishna, Godavari, and Cauveri are present in the eastern coastal plain.
- The deltas are very fertile and productive for agriculture. Therefore, the delta of the River Krishna is called the 'Granary of South India'.
- The Eastern coast is again divided into three categories:

- **Utkal coast:** Extending between the Chilika Lake and Kolleru Lake, they are much wider than the western coastal plains and undergo immense rainfall. Some of the crops that are cultivated here are rice, coconut, and banana.
- **Andhra coast:** Extending between the Kolleru Lake and Pulicat Lake, the Andhra coast forms a basin area for the Krishna and the Godavari rivers.
- **Coromandel coast:** The Coromandel coast extends between Pulicat Lake and Kanyakumari in Tamil Nadu. This Indian coastline remains dry in summer and receives rainfall during the winter due to the north-east monsoons.
- Chilka lake and the Pulicat lake (lagoon) are the important geographical features of east coast.

Western Coastal Plains of India

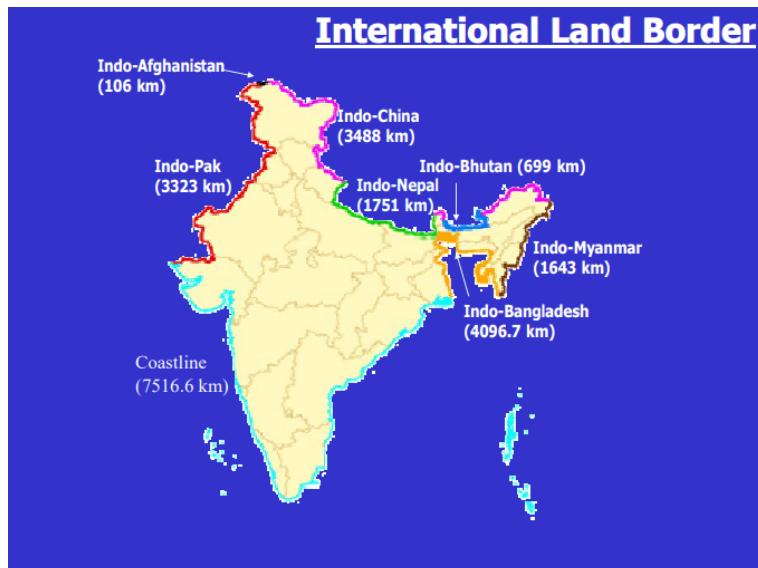
- Western Coastal Plains stretches from Kerala in the south to Gujarat in the north passing through Karnataka, Goa, and Maharashtra.
- The western coastal plains stretch for 1500 km north to south and its width ranges from 10 to 25 km. The West Continental Shelf is at its widest off the Bombay coast.
- This place is rich in oil. Along the Malabar Coast, there are many beautiful lagoons that make the place a tourist destination. The western coast is narrower than the eastern coast.
- The western coast is further divided into four categories:

- **Kachchh and Kathiawar coast:** Kachchh, formerly a gulf is formed by the deposition of silt by the Indus. The area of Kachchh is covered with shallow water during the monsoons and is divided into Great Rann in the north and Little Rann in the east. Whereas, **Kathiawar is situated to the south of Kachchh.**
- **Konkan coast:** It extends between Daman in the north to Goa in the south. Rice and cashew are the two important crops of this region.
- **Kanada coast:** It extends between Martagon and Mangalore and is rich in iron deposits.
- **Malabar coast:** Extending between Mangalore to Kanyakumari, the Malabar coast is relatively broad. This region also consists of lagoons running parallel to the coast in southern Kerala.
- **Konkan coast = Maharashtra coast and Goa coast**
- **Malabar Coast = Kerala and Karnataka coast.**

S. No.	State	Length of the coastline (in Kilometres)
1	Gujarat	1214.7
2	Andhra Pradesh	973.7
3	Tamil Nadu	906.9
4	Maharashtra	652.6
5	Kerala	569.7
6	Odisha	476.4
7	Karnataka	280
8	Goa (with Daman & Diu)	160.5
9	West Bengal	157.5
10	Puducherry (Union Territory)	30.6



India's Frontiers



- India has 15106.7 Km of land border running through 92 districts in 17 States and a coastline of 7516.6 Km [6100 km of mainland coastline + coastline of 1197 Indian islands] touching 13 States and Union Territories (UTs).
- India's longest border is with BANGLADESH while the shortest border is with Afghanistan.

Name of the country	Length of the border (in Km)
Bangladesh	4,096.7
China	3,488
Pakistan	3,323
Nepal	1,751
Myanmar	1,643
Bhutan	699
Afghanistan	106
Total	15,106.7

Border with China

- This is the second longest border of India, next only to its border with Bangladesh.
- Five Indian states, namely **Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh** touch the Indian boundary with China.
- The Sino-Indian border is generally divided into three sectors namely : (i) the Western sector, (ii) the Middle sector, and (iii) the Eastern sector



Parcnam Classes

The Western Sector

- In the western sector, India shares about 2152 km long border with China.
- It is between the Union Territory of Ladakh and Xinjiang Province of China.
- The western sector boundary is largely the outcome of the British policy towards the state of Jammu and Kashmir.
- China claims the Aksai Chin district, the Changmo valley, Pangong Tso area of north-east Ladakh as well as a strip of about 5,000 sq km down the entire length of eastern Ladakh.
- China also claims a part of Huza-Gilgit area in North Kashmir (ceded to it in 1963 by Pakistan).

- In this sector, there is a territorial dispute over Aksai Chin. India claims it as part of erstwhile Kashmir, while China claims it is part of Xinjiang.
- The dispute over Aksai Chin can be traced back to the failure of the British Empire to clearly demarcate a legal border between China and its Indian colony.
- During the time of British rule in India, two borders between India and China were proposed- Johnson's Line and McDonald Line.
- The Johnson's line (proposed in 1865) shows Aksai Chin in erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir (now Ladakh) i.e. under India's control whereas McDonald Line (proposed in 1893) places it under China's control.
- India considers Johnson Line as a correct, rightful national border with China, while on the other hand, China considers the McDonald Line as the correct border with India.
- At present, the Line of Actual Control (LAC) is the line separating Indian areas of Ladakh from Aksai Chin. It is concurrent with the Chinese Aksai Chin claim line.

The Middle Sector

- Two Indian states of Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand touch this border.
- In this sector, India shares about 625 km long boundary with China which runs along the watershed from Ladakh to Nepal.
- Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand touch this border with Tibet (China) in this sector. Both sides do not have much disagreement over the border in this area.

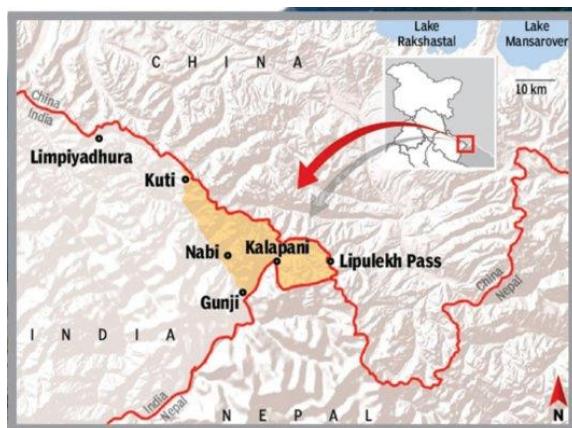
The Eastern Sector

- The 1,140 km long boundary between India and China runs from the eastern limit of Bhutan to a point near Diphu pass (Talu Pass) at the trijunction of India, Tibet, and Myanmar.
- This line is usually referred to as the Mc Mahon Line after Sir Henry Mc Mahon, then foreign secretary of British India, who negotiated the boundary agreement between Great Britain and Tibet at Shimla accord in 1913-14.

The India-Nepal Boundary

- Five states of India, namely Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, and Sikkim touch the Nepalese border with India.
- The border is a porous one with the unrestricted movement of goods and people between Indian and Nepal.
- A major portion of the Indo-Nepalese border runs in the east-west direction almost along the foothill of the Shiwalik Range.

- **Kalapani:** Kalapani is a valley that is administered by India as a part of the Pithoragarh district of Uttarakhand. It is situated on the Kailash Mansarovar route. The latest political map of India reiterated the Indian claims on the region that Nepal says belongs to its westernmost part. India claims the historic region as part of Uttarakhand.
- The Kali River in the Kalapani region demarcates the border between India and Nepal.



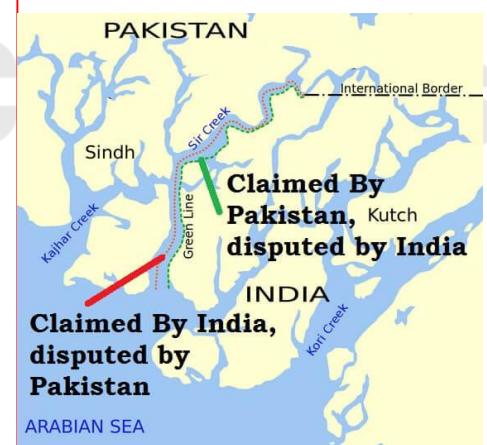
- **The Treaty of Sugauli** signed by the Kingdom of Nepal and British India (after the Anglo-Nepalese War) in 1816 located the Kali River as Nepal's western boundary with India. The discrepancy in locating the source of the river led to boundary disputes between India and Nepal, with each country producing maps supporting their own claims.
- **Susta:** Susta area is one of the disputed territories between India (Uttar Pradesh) and Nepal.
- Susta is located on the bank of the Gandak river (called Narayani river in Nepal).
- The change of course by the Gandak river is the main reason for disputes in the Susta area.
- According to the Sugauli Treaty signed between British East India Company and Nepal in 1816, the Gandak river is the international boundary and eastern part of the river belongs to India and western part of the river belongs to Nepal. At the time the treaty was signed Susta village was situated west of the river. But, over the years, the Gandak river changed its course and Susta moved to the east side of the river.
- Quite peaceful border and there is no boundary dispute between the two countries.

The India-Bhutan Boundary

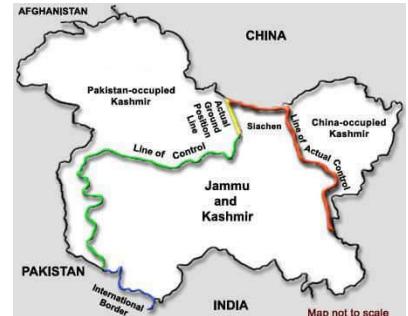


The Indo-Pakistan Boundary

- The Indo-Pakistan boundary is the result of the partition of the country in 1947 under the Radcliffe award of which Sir Cyril Radcliffe was the chairman.
- Jammu and Kashmir, Sir Creek are the major disputed regions.
- Sir Creek: It is a 96 km long strip of water disputed between India and Pakistan in the Rann of Kutch marshlands.
- Pakistan claims the line to follow the eastern shore of the estuary while India claims a centerline (differing interpretations of paragraphs 9 and 10 of the Bombay Government Resolution of 1914 signed between the then Government of Sindh and Rao Maharaj of Kutch).
- The International Boundary in the Sir Creek area and International Maritime Boundary line (IMBL) between India and Pakistan have not been demarcated.



- Jammu and Kashmir, Pakistan-occupied Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan: Pakistan is in the illegal and forcible occupation of approximately 78,000 sq. km of Indian Territory in Jammu and Kashmir. In addition, under the so-called Sino-Pakistan Boundary Agreement of 1963, Pakistan illegally ceded 5,180 sq. km in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir to China.
- Siachen Glacier: The Siachen Glacier is located in the eastern Karakorams in the Himalayas just east of the Actual Ground Position Line between India-Pakistan.
- The entire Siachen Glacier, with all major passes, is currently under the administration of India since 1984 (Operation Meghdoot).



- India's 4,096 km long border with Bangladesh is the longest.

The India-Bangladesh Border



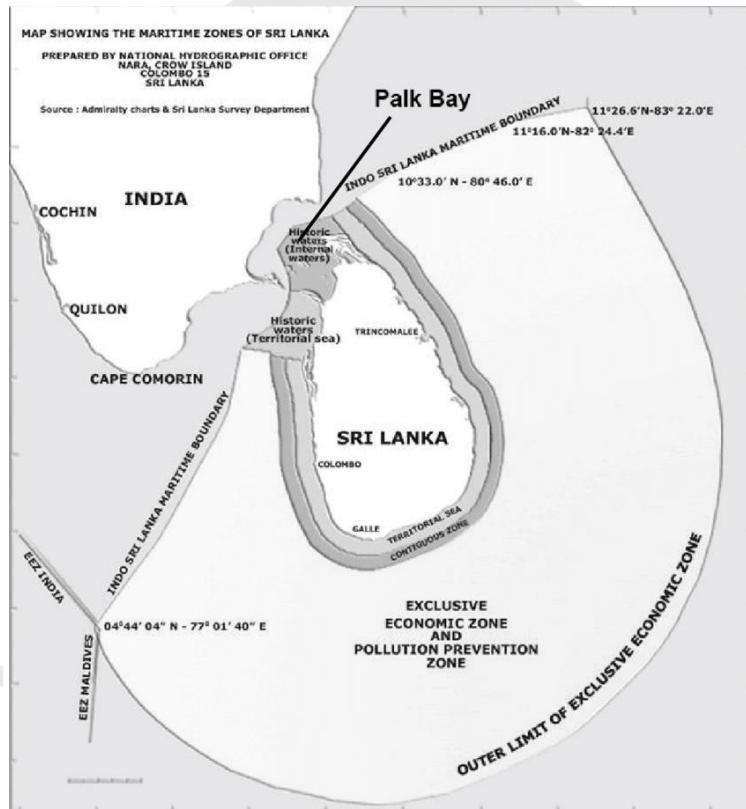
India-Myanmar Boundary

- This boundary runs roughly along the watershed between the Brahmaputra and Ayeyarwady [Irrawaddy].
- It passes through thickly forested regions, with Mizo Hills, Manipur, and Nagaland on the Indian side and Chin Hills, Naga Hills, and Kachin state on the Myanmar side.



India-Sri Lanka Boundary

- India and Sri Lanka are separated from each other by a narrow and shallow sea called Palk Strait.
- Dhanushkodi on the Tamil Nadu coast in India is only 32 km away from Talaimanar in the Jaffna peninsula in Sri Lanka. These two points are joined by a group of islets forming Adam's Bridge.
- Though, by and large, peace has reigned where the Indo-Sri Lanka border issue is concerned, there were tensions over the question of who owned Kachchatheevu Island in the Palk Strait. It was given by India to Sri Lanka in 1974.



MCQ

Name the Border Guarding Force at Indo-China Border?

- A. Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force (ITBP)
- B. Indo-China Border Force (ICBF)
- C. Aksai Chin Border Force (ACBF)
- D. None of the above

How many States share their boundary with Nepal?

- A. Five
- B. Four
- C. Three
- D. Two

Yanam which is a part of Puducherry is located in the State of -

- A. Kerala
- B. Tamil Nadu
- C. Andhra Pradesh
- D. Karnataka

Which of the following States has a boundary with Myanmar as well as Bangladesh?

- A. Manipur
- B. Mizoram
- C. Tripura
- D. Nagaland

How many States in India have a coastline?

- A. Seven
- B. Eight
- C. Nine
- D. Ten

Which State has the boundaries with most States?

- A. Madhya Pradesh
- B. Uttar Pradesh
- C. Chhattisgarh
- D. Jharkhand

Answers

Question	Answer
1	A
2	A
3	C
4	B
5	C
6	B

Parcham Classes